

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE RESOLVING THAT A CONDITION OF EXTREME PERIL EXISTS IN AND AROUND THE WATER BODIES OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, PROCLAIMING THAT A STATE OF EMERGENCY EXISTS WITHIN THE STATE OF IDAHO AND ASKING THAT DEFICIENCY WARRANT FUNDING AUTHORIZED BY THE IDAHO INVASIVE SPECIES ACT OF 2008, BE USED BY THE IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY AND ALL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH QUAGGA AND ZEBRA MUSSEL PREVENTION, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INCIDENT RESPONSE PLANS AND INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, invasive species are a real and imminent danger to Idaho. Two nonnative species, quagga and zebra mussels, are moving inexorably toward Idaho; and

WHEREAS, quagga and zebra mussels were introduced to the Great Lakes in the late 1980s and have been a major fouling organism, causing billions of dollars in damage in that region; and

WHEREAS, the mussels were first detected in the West in 2007, and have rapidly expanded from Lake Mead, Nevada to California, Colorado, Arizona and Utah and, although the mussels are not yet established in Idaho, the waters of our state are extremely vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, should quagga and zebra mussels become established in Idaho, the financial impact to the region's extensive hydropower system and irrigated agriculture could exceed \$90 million annually due to the mussel's capacity to clog pipes, pumps and delivery systems; and

WHEREAS, the mussels also damage the hulls, props, and motors of boats and other watercraft, imposing additional costs and burdens on recreational boaters and would diminish the attraction of water-based recreation in Idaho.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that given the urgency of the situation, and in light of the aforementioned, a condition of extreme peril exists in and around the water bodies of the state of Idaho.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ability of the agencies and department of the state of Idaho to effectively prevent and control the spread of these mussels in the state is limited and, accordingly, under the authority of the Invasive Species Act of 2008, we proclaim that a state of emergency exists within the state of Idaho.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we ask that deficiency warrant funding authorized by the Idaho Invasive Species Act of 2008, be used by the Idaho state department of agriculture for personnel, equipment and facilities for the performance of any and all activities associated with quagga and zebra mussel prevention, development and implementation of incident response plans and interagency agreements.